



The Journey

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WHO ARE OUR HEROES

Last week I directed the Alabama Region's Chi-Rho, or Middle School, church camp. Our theme for the week was on Heroes, who are our heroes and how can we be a hero for Christ. Of course one of the things that we focused on during the week was Superheroes. Superheroes are everywhere now. Of course they are the stars of popular movies; there are television shows and podcasts that are dedicated to these heroes. Comic Books are as popular as ever reaching out to new audiences and now you see the classic heroes on shirts, hats, shoes, and whatever else you can put their logo on. We are living in the age of the Superhero.

However, I cannot help but think about when I grew up and Superheroes were not so popular. I was one of the kids who bought comic book and loved them, but I can still remember my father telling me I was wasting my money. I used to read them late at night, under the covers so he would not see them. I only told my closest friends, those I knew would understand, that I was a comic book geek. These stories just seemed to resonate with me. People who for whatever reason are given impossible powers and then try to use them for the betterment of the world around them. I can still remember Spiderman's uncle telling him, "With great power comes great responsibility." Even as a child I could understand that this meant that we are all called to use whatever power we have to help others.

The bible is also full of heroic stories. In the Old Testaments we hear the stories of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and they seem to echo the mythic heroes of their time. The stories of King David read like a comic book in many ways as David tricks King Saul and the Philistines time and time again, coming out on top because of his wits and his faith. You can even argue that the miracle stories of Jesus are heroic tales. Jesus heals those who are outcast in their society and confounds the Pharisees and the scribes time and time again. In the scriptures we are called to live a life of humility, charity, compassion, and to struggle for justice. If these are not heroic ideals then I don't know what are.

I believe that we are all called to be a hero in our own way. Thank goodness this does not mean we have to wear spandex or jump off of tall buildings, but we can still use the gifts that we have to make a difference in the lives of those around us. We can provide a meal for someone who is hungry, we can sit with a friend or a neighbor who is grieving, we can help a child who needs a positive role model in their life, we can reach out to those who are considered outcasts and help them to find a welcoming environment. We can combat the evils of racism, sexism, or any attempt to separate us because of imagined differences. We can follow in the footsteps of Christ, living justly, loving compassionately, and walking humbly with God. All of this is the work of a hero. So let's go be heroes together, thanks be to God, Amen.

Pastor Paul

Deadline for the *Journey* is **Thursday, June 28**, at Noon publisher@fcc-hsv.org

3209 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville, Alabama 35802 Telephone: 256-881-0150 **Office Hours: 9am - 5pm M-F**
Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Christian Education for all ages - 9:15 a.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Scripture Mark 5: 21-43
 Sermon "Mission Interrupted"

SERVING AT THE TABLE

8:15 Dale Thomas & Frank Fitzgerald
 10:30 Justin Givens & Dave Crocket

COMMUNION PREPARATION

Bev Williamson

SERVING COMMUNION

8:15 Delores Edgeton & Linda Hooker
 Eddie & Valerie Parks
 10:30 TBA
 Marilee Keim & Ty Davis
 Bev Williamson

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Patti Allen

SUNDAY'S FOOD BASKET is given in honor of Duffy & Merrill Boles' birthdays by Lee Boles

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Story Time
 Pastor Laura, Holly Ahlbin,
 Abby Allen & Greyson Rogers

YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Off until August 12)

AV SUPPORT TEAM

Technical Director - Chuck Herber
 Assistant Director - Michael Smith
 Sound- Michael Smith & Malcolm Landreth
 Stream Operator- Michael Smith

ATTENDANCE	6/17	6/24
First Service Worship	52	39
Sunday School	34	36
Second Service Worship	77	75
Children's Church	5	9
Young Disciples	NA	NA
Taizé Service	NA	15
Total Worship	134	138

VBS July 16-20 (9:00-11:30 am)

Come be a part of this year's exciting Vacation Bible School program "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus!" During the week children (age 3 through 5th grade) will learn that when they are lonely, worried, struggling, wrong, and powerless....Jesus rescues!



Each day begins at Castaway Sing & Play where kids will sing, shout, praise, pray, and be introduced to a Bible story and the daily theme. Then after they experience the other activities of the day, kids gather back at Sail Away Sendoff to wrap up with music and more!

Other sites at Shipwrecked include: Bible Discovery where kids will explore the Bible story in a variety of interactive ways; Ship Rec Games where kids have time to play games; Tropical Treats where kids will enjoy yummy snacks; KidVid Cinema where kids watch films about real kids living out their faith in cool ways; and Imagination Station where kids will make awesome crafts to remind them of the Bible lessons!

Through *Shipwrecked*, kids will be anchored in the truth that Jesus carries them through life's storms! Your kids won't want to miss this adventure! **To register your child please contact Pastor Laura (256) 881-0150 or laura@fcc-hsv.org**

We need lots of volunteers to make this event successful. You can sign up to help at church on the paper sign-up sheets located outside the sanctuary or by going to Sign Up Genius and signing up online.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084eaba72ea0fb6-shipwrecked>

Looking forward to a wonderful VBS together as a church!

~Pastor Laura

CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH? Stream it live at: www.fcchsvtech.weebly.com
MISS A SERMON? See previous sermons at: www.fcc-hsv.org/sermons/



LOST AND FOUND

A table with found items is set up for the next two Sundays across from the Parlor. Come take a look if you have lost something or might be able to identify something that someone else has lost. Items not claimed will be given to a charity, sold in next year's Rummage Sale, or thrown away.

Please give a warm FCC welcome to Mr. Kyle Love & Dr. Carrie German-Love who joined the church during second service on Sunday, June 24.

Please welcome back returning member Chris Haury who as been away serving in the military.

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

1 Peter 4: 10

COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

One way you can literally serve others is to serve Communion on Sundays. **Please contact Gayle Herber if you are interested in serving Communion.**

“The Lord’s Supper or Communion is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all who are followers of Jesus Christ. The practice of Holy Communion has become the central element of worship within the Disciples tradition.”



disciples.org/our-identity/communion-and-baptism/

NURSERY HELP NEEDED

Share an hour or more of your time with our babies or toddlers once a month. Sign up poster is in the Commons



for first service, Sunday School, or second service. If you are not on the Safe Church volunteer list, we can easily provide training. Call Pastor Laura, 256-881-0150, if you have any questions.

The 2018 sign up chart for **FOOD BASKETS** is located across the hall from McMains Hall. Remember a friend, anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Donations are \$25.00 with checks made out to First Christian Church and Food Basket on the notation line.

